

Universität Bamberg



Bamberg, 16-17 June 2023

Between “Reporting the World” and “Revealing the Self”

Persian Pilgrimage Travelogues of the Qajar Period



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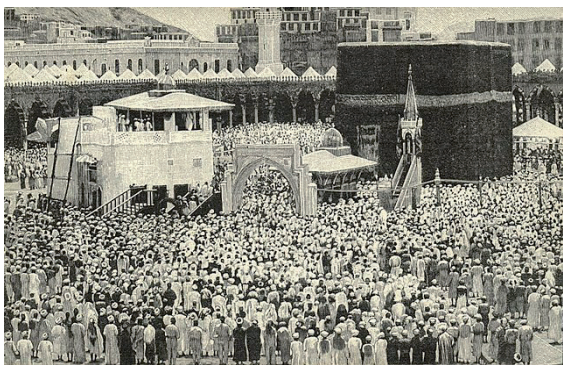


Due to the effects of colonial aspirations and technical progress in transportation travelling beyond one's own country became an option for a wider public in the Islamic World. Since the second half of the 19th century, more Muslim believers than in the preceding centuries had the opportunity to fulfill their religious duty and embarked on the pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina and other destinations such as the Shiite shrines in Iraq. Pilgrims from Persia also set out in large numbers for various holy sites.



Main Gate of the Imam Reza Shrine in Mashhad (1850s)

Therefore it comes as no surprise that Persian pilgrimage flourished in this period. Through the editing work mainly by scholars in Iran, these accounts became increasingly available to an international acade-



Kaaba during the Hajj 1866

mic audience in recent decades. The workshop aims at bringing together scholars who study Persian pilgrimage accounts as a particular form of travelogues against the backdrop of a time-specific world experience and individual self-reflection. It focuses on patterns of perception of foreign lifeworlds and the authors' response to concepts of identity and otherness.

Program

Day 1, Friday 16 June

13:30 **Registration**

14:00 **Welcome address**

Christoph U. Werner

14:15 – 15:45 **Panel I**

Chair: Roxane Haag-Higuchi

Christine Nölle-Karimi | *Between the Straight Path and Slippery Slopes: The Diary of an Afghan Pilgrim*

Şevket Küçük Hüseyin | *Pilgrim, Globetrotter, Political Activist: Hajj Sayyah (1834-1925) and how he narrates himself and Europe in his travel memoirs*

15:45 – 16:15 **Coffee break**

16:15 – 17:45 **Panel II**

Chair: Christoph U. Werner

Tomoko Morikawa | *Pilgrimage to the Ottoman Iraqi 'Atabat and Identity Formation of Shi'ite Iranians*

Piotr Bachtin | *Autobiographical dimension of the Qajar pilgrimage diaries by women*

17:45 – 18:30 **Discussion**

19:30 **Dinner at “Kleehof” (Hotel Europa, Untere Königstraße 6, Bamberg)**

Day 2, Saturday 17 June

10:00 – 11:30 **Panel III**

Chair: Christine Kämpfer

Güllü Yıldız | *From Admiration to Criticism: Representations of Ottoman Capital in Persian Hajj Travelogues*

Thomas Ecker | *Comparing Two Persian Hajj Travelogues: Farhād Mīrzā (1875/76) and Husām as-Saltana (1880/81)*

11:30 – 12:00 **Coffee break**

12:00 – 13:30 **Panel IV**

Chair: Thomas Ecker

Peyman Eshaghi | *The Diplomatic Hajj: Qajar Political Elites, Travel Writing and Interactions with the Ottoman Officialdom*

Birgitt Hoffmann | *Memories of a Royal Pilgrim: Nāsir al-Dīn Shāh's notes on his visits to Shi'ite Shrines*

13:30 – 14:00 **Discussion**



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